

HOUSE No. 981

By Mr. Ayers of Quincy, petition of Bruce J. Ayers for legislation to allow local housing authorities access to criminal records of tenants and prospective tenants. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT ALLOWING LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES ACCESS TO CRIMINAL
AND OTHER RECORDS OF TENANTS AND PROSPECTIVE TENANTS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Notwithstanding any general law, special law, rule or regulation
2 to the contrary, local housing authorities are allowed access to
3 criminal offender records information that indicates the arrest and
4 conviction records and any tenants and prospective tenants. Such
5 local housing authorities shall also have access to all information
6 relative to any pending criminal charges, restraining orders in
7 effect or previously in effect and any protective or custody actions
8 taken against such tenants or prospective tenants by the depart-
9 ment of social services. Nothing in this act shall be construed as
10 an infringement on personal privacy and in no case shall a local
11 housing authority be responsible for any liability arising from the
12 access and use of the aforesaid records for the purpose of evalu-
13 ating tenants or prospective tenants and their suitability for
14 housing under the jurisdiction of the authority.